

PBSUCCESS

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16 May 1957

THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED
FOR RELEASE, AS SANITIZED, BY
ESI/HRG ON 6 JULY 95

MEMORANDUM FOR: DC/P, C/P

SUBJECT: Acts of Force Before D-Day

1. In view of repeated observations by Guatemalans to the effect that the anti-Communist forces must prove their strength by deeds as well as words, as well as the need for accelerating the psychological pressure on Guatemalans, certain limited, specific acts of violence prior to D-Day are hereby proposed.

2. The acts are as follows:

a. D-12. Raid on [] This raid should be a combination of arson and demolitions work, but should not attack personnel. It should be conducted in the absence of [] from the finca. The purpose of this raid would be to focus public attention on the fact that [] is the enemy of the anti-Communists and that more dire things are in store for him later.

b. D-10. Disposal of [] This would be the first anti-personnel action. Its purpose beyond that of helping to paralyze [] is to show the public that the anti-Communists resent the Soviet-style [] system and consider [] a prime symbol of oppression.

c. D-8. Disposal of [] for the same reasons as the disposal of []. The disposal of [] and [] would make the anti-Communist protest against the [] character of the Arbenz regime perfectly clear.

d. D-6. Disposal of [] This action documents the anti-Communist character of the revolution and leaves [] leaderless.

e. D-4. Disposal of [] With this, opposition to both the [] character and the [] regime will have been effectively displayed.

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f. D-1 or D-Day before H-hour. Disposal of [] It is apparent, from [] debriefing of [] and many other indications, that the fate of [] may well be the key to the entire D-Day situation. With [] still on the scene, he would undoubtedly be able to command certain support which would render the task of friendly forces more difficult. If the issue were in doubt, [] could tip the scales unfavorably. An attempt should therefore be made to have victory grow out of the disposal [], rather than reckoning with [] after victory. This action must be carried out as close to D-Day as possible; otherwise, members [] or non-PBSUCCESS forces might fill the vacuum before CALLIGRUS could.

3. In any program of this sort, the possibilities of reprisals and their damaging effect on the D-Day objective must be considered. The above actions would undoubtedly invite some reprisals and lead to an attempt on the part of the government to tighten security. However, such government actions in the period D-14 to D-Day must be expected anyway. On the other hand, successful accomplishment of the above actions should cause panic among the government sympathizers and possibly negate their increased vigilance. At the same time, friendly forces should be greatly heartened and mobilized. The program as described above would give enough time for both enemy disintegration and friendly mobilization prior to D-Day. On balance, it is believed that these shows of friendly strength and these efforts to "soften up" the enemy would be beneficial and would decrease the risk of putting all PBSUCCESS eggs in the D-Day basket. It may also be that the government reaction to one or the other proposed acts of violence would provide significant guidance to existing friendly D-Day plans.

4. It should be emphasized that the success of only one or two of the proposed actions would be insufficient and would give a "flash-in-the-pan" impression to the public. Execution of the whole program, with proper [] exploitation, would be not only physically impressive but psychologically most explicit and significant.

5. If the foregoing program is approved, [] should be immediately requested to obtain, under the direction of [] the requisite information relative to the personal habits, movements, etc., of the target personalities and appropriate data on [] Guatemala, has indicated his ability to procure such information on short notice. The first three proposed actions have been suggested by him, either orally or by dispatch.

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Questions for submission on this point -

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